

Face the Emotion

Description:

Children will create self-portraits and learn how different techniques help to convey different emotions.

Materials:

white paper, crayons or markers, a mirror



Procedure:

Play a game in which you and your child take turns making faces. When you make a face, your child tries to guess the emotion you are expressing. Then he makes a face and you make a guess. When the game—and all the giggling—is over, have your child draw self-portraits showing a wide range of emotions. Let him look in a mirror first and then draw a self-portrait with crayons or markers. You can draw some self-portraits, too. When a few drawings are complete, display them for all to see. If you also have drawn a few self-portraits, you and your child can guess what emotions the drawings convey.

Extension:

Look at portraits and self-portraits by great artists: Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, and Vincent van Gogh's *Self-Portrait* are good examples. You can find these paintings in Casey's Concentration in *JumpStart Artist*. As you and your child look at the paintings, talk about the emotions that the faces express.

Just for Kids:

How can you tell that a person is happy or sad just by looking at him? Try to change the expression on your face from happy to sad. Now make an angry face, a frightened face, and an excited face. What did your eyebrows do when you changed your expression? Did the ends of your mouth go up or down? Did you show your teeth? Draw pictures showing different emotions.

Resources:

Book:

Funny Faces by Nicola Tuxworth

